## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing
modules each having one or more tracks and each connected to a computer
system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of
centrally controlling each of the one or more tracks of the plurality of audio
processing modules, the method comprising the steps of:

generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first display portion including one or more control boxes to control a corresponding one or more tracks of the plurality of audio processing modules; and

generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the second display including a central control mechanism for controlling all of the one or more tracks of the plurality of audio processing modules.

The method of claim 1 further including the steps of: 2. selecting one bf the control boxes corresponding to one of the tracks; transmitting a control command associated with the one of the control boxes from the computer system to an audio processing module having the one of the tracks; and

performing a function assigned to the control command by the audio processing module.

- 3. The method of claim 1 further including the steps of:
- 2 selecting a record button of a specific track;
- 3 transmitting a record command from the computer system to an audio 4 processing module having the specific tracks; and

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5	causing the specific track to record an audio sound by the audio processing
6	module.
1	4. The method of claim 1 further including the steps of:
32	selecting the central control mechanism;
L3/	transmitting a global control command associated with the central control
4	mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing
5	modules; and
6	each audio processing module, performing a function assigned to the
7	global control command by the audio processing module.
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1	5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of generating a second
2	display portion includes the step of said second display portion, including a
3	global play command for controlling the one or more tracks of the audio
4	processing modules.
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1	6. The method of claim 5 further including the steps of:
2	selecting the global play command;
23	transmitting the global play command from the computer system to the
3 4	plurality of audio processing modules; and
<i>5</i> 8/	each audio processing module, causing all the tracks to each play an audio
6	sound by the audio processing module.
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\1	7. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of generating a second
2	display portion includes the step of said second display portion, including a
3	global stop command for controlling the one or more tracks of the audio

processing modules.

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8. \ In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing
modules each having one or more input/output ("I/O") channels and each
connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical
user interface method of centrally controlling each of the one or more I/O
channels of the purality of audio processing modules, the method comprising
the steps of:

generating a first display portion, the first display portion including one or more control boxes to control a corresponding one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules;

displaying the first display portion by the processor on the display for control by a user;

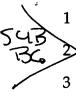
selecting a control command on a specified control box by the user;

transmitting the control command from the computer system to the audio processing module having the I/O channel corresponding to the specified control box; and

performing a task assigned to the control command by the audio processing module with respect to the I/O channel.

9. In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing modules each having one or more input/output ("I/O") channels and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling all of the one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising the steps of:

7	generating a display portion, the display portion including a central
8	control mechanism to control all of the one or more I/O channels of the
9	plurality of audio processing modules;
10	displaying the display portion by the processor on the display for control by
11	a user;
12	selecting the central control mechanism;
13	transmitting a global control command associated with the central control
14	mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing
15	modules; and
16	each audio processing module, causing all the I/O channels to perform a
17	task assigned to the global control command.
1	10. An apparatus for controlling a plurality of audio processing
2	modules in a player/recorder system, each of the plurality of audio processing
3	modules having one or more input/output ("I/O") channels, the apparatus
4	comprising:
5	a processor; and
6	a display including
7	a first display portion produced by the processor, the first display
8	portion including one or more control boxes to control corresponding I/O
9	channels of the plurality of audio processing modules, and
10	a second display portion produced by the processor, the second
11	display portion including a central control mechanism to control all of the
12	one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules.



- 11. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a selection device to select one of the control boxes corresponding to one of the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the selection device is a 2 keyboard.
- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the selection device is a mouse.
- 1 D 14. The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising an I/O device to
  2 transmit a control command associated with the one of the control boxes selected
  3 by the selection device to an audio processing module having the one of the I/O
  4 channels.
  - 15. The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising an audio processing module to receive the control command and perform a function assigned to the control command.
- 1 16. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a selection device to 2 select the central control mechanism.
- 1 17. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising an I/O device to 2 transmit a global control command associated with the central control 3 mechanism to the plurality of audio processing modules.
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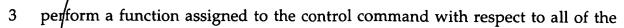
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18. The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising a plurality of audio processing modules, each of which is to receive the global control command and



4 I/O channels.

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